supplements the State Governments' efforts through District Mental Health Programme, Strengthening of Psychiatric Wings of Medical Colleges/General Hospitals and Modernisation/Upgradation of Mental Hospital to make them as therapeutic units. The Government proposed to restrategise the national Mental Health programme during 11th Plan to expand District Mental Health Programme to cover the areas of suicide prevention, stress management, School Mental Health etc. and also to create infrastructure for production of quality manpower/training of personnel etc. for effective delivery of mental health services.

CCFS sub-committee on additives and ingredients in beverages

1266. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of additives and ingredients permitted for use in beverages in most countries which are yet to be considered for use in India by the Central Committee on Food Standards (CCFS);

(b) if so, the impact on the quality of products launched and the launch of new products sold internationally, in India; and

(c) whether his Ministry will consider directing the CCFS to have far more frequent meeting, so that it can benefit all stakeholders and consider an interim solution to permit use of such additives and ingredients in the interim?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) and (b) Consideration of requests for permitting food additives/ingredients for use in various food products, including beverages, is an ongoing process. These are considered, as and when such requests are received, by the technical sub-committees of CCFS taking into consideration the codex guidelines, the regulatory provisions in other countries wherever available, the technological necessity and consumer safety.

(c) The CCFS meets to consider the recommendations made by its various technical sub-committees as and when there are sufficient agenda items for the meeting.

Funds sanctioned for NPCDCS

†1267. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Planning Commission has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5 crores for National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovasular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS) for prevention of diabetes;

(b) whether it is a fact that his Ministry has not allocated any funds under this head during 2006-07; and

(c) if so, the reasons for this indifference?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMADOSS): (a) to (c) In connection with launching of pilot phase of the National Programme for Prevention and Control of Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke, the Planning Commission had accorded in principle approval for incurring an expenditure of Rs. 5 crores in 2006-07. However, the said amount was not utilized as the pilot phase of the programme could not be finalized and launched in the said financial year.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.